



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE: PROJECT CEASEFIRE
KC CAREER OFFENDER SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS
IN PRISON FOR ILLEGAL FIREARM

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for being a felon in possession of a firearm. Today's sentencing is part of Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

Marcel Small, 39, of Kansas City, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Ortrie D. Smith this morning to 15 years and eight months in federal prison without parole for being an armed career criminal in possession of a firearm.

On April 7, 2005, **Small** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. By pleading guilty, **Small** admitted that he was in possession of a Glock .40-caliber semi-automatic pistol on Nov. 2, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Small** has a 1996 criminal felony conviction for burglary, a 1994 criminal felony conviction for robbery and a 1990 criminal felony conviction for burglary.

Small was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Nov. 16, 2004, in Kansas City.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul S. Becker. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Project Ceasefire

Project Ceasefire, launched in October 1999, is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement and the Kansas City Crime Commission that targets for federal

prosecution persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow